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Second Assassin Theory Is Probed by Garrison

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More pieces in the "New Orleans Kennedy death plot" story are falling into place today.

From sources familiar with the investigation, it now appears that Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison believes that:

1. Lee Harvey Oswald shot Texas Gov. John B. Connally in Dallas, not President John F. Kennedy.

2. A second assassin, supposedly a swarthy, heavy-set man, was on an overpass in front of the presidential car and fired the shot that killed Kennedy.

3. A laundry truck was used as a transporting vehicle for some of the plotters, including David W. Ferrie, the former airlines pilot who died last week in New Orleans.

The "second assassin" theory has been widely examined in the past and was discredited by the Warren Commission. The commission concluded that Oswald, acting alone, killed the President. Government investigators, for instance, questioned at least 15 persons about the overpass in Dallas and came up with nothing to back up the allegation that a gunman had fired from there.

While still maintaining an of-

ficial "no comment" policy in connection with the series of sensational stories and statements coming almost daily out of New Orleans, government sources here privately continued to express complete confidence in the Warren Commission findings.

Garrison, in the meantime, has made the first arrest in the case, Clay L. Shaw, a retired New Orleans businessman. And, for the first time, the 6-foot-6-inch district attorney has made public official charges linking Oswald, Ferrie, Shaw and "other persons" in a plot to kill Kennedy.

In an affidavit filed for the granting of search warrant in connection with Shaw's apartment, Garrison's office said:

"Affiant has evidence that meetings were held in the apartment of David W. Ferrie at

See PROBE, Page A-2.

Continued From Page A-1

3300 Louisiana Avenue Parkway and the people present were David W. Ferrie, Clay Shaw, alias Clay Bertrand, and Lee Harvey Oswald and an informant and other persons."

After searching the apartment, Garrison's investigators carried off a weird assortment of material including five whips, pieces of chain, a black hood and cape, and a shotgun.

Shaw, free on \$10,000 bond, apparently was in San Francisco on the day of the assassination, Nov. 22, 1963.

J. Monroe Sullivan, executive director of the San Francisco World Trade Center, told the Associated Press that Shaw was touring the center with him and other businessmen that day. At that time, Shaw was the managing director of the International Trade Mart in New Orleans. He is now retired.

Garrison claims that an informant—who since has voluntarily submitted to questioning while under the so-called "truth serum," sodium pentothal—was present in Ferrie's apartment and "saw the conspirators and heard the plans."

In fact, Shaw, 54, had been questioned extensively by the

FBI as one of many suspects in New Orleans acquainted with Ferrie, who had been interrogated after he lost his airline job because of his arrest as a homosexual.

One unconfirmed report had Shaw claiming at one point to have talked with Oswald while he was in a New Orleans hospital. But, the story goes, investigators determined that Shaw was under heavy sedation at the time and could not have taken such a call. He is said to have later denied the story as a figment of his imagination.

Ramsey Clark, the new U.S. attorney general, told reporters here yesterday that the FBI had investigated Shaw late in 1963. "On the evidence that the FBI has," he said, "there was no connection found" with the assassination.

Since his release, Shaw has told newsmen that he is "completely innocent." He also said he never saw Oswald. And he denied using the name of Clay Bertrand. The arrest added, however, one more twist to an already bizarre story.

In the two weeks since Garrison's investigation became public, attention has focused on as strange a cast of characters as ever people any "underground" novels: neurotics, homosexuals, militant anti-Communists, private detectives, and conspiratorial Cuban refugees involved in an attempt to free their homeland.

Now, more and more of those whose names have been mentioned seem to want to talk publicly. Two personal incidents yesterday were illustrative.

Both Jack S. Martin and David Lewis, two of the original sources for Garrison's investigation, called this reporter from New Orleans and talked at great length about the case.

Both men once worked for the late W. Guy Banister, a private detective, and both said they saw anti-Castro Cubans in Banister's office with David Ferrie on many occasions. Lewis flatly said he had seen Oswald there several times; Martin was less positive, indicating he might have, but was not sure. However, he promised to be able to divulge "hot leads" to help the cause of what he called "sensational journalism."

Martin talked about Jack

Ruby and Oswald, strippers and nightspots, tape-recordings, "spike-mikes," photographs, weapons, and, often, about his "good friend," Jim Garrison.

He claims, among other things, that Ferrie had mentioned Clay Shaw to him. He also talked, disparagingly, of government investigative agencies, the FBI, the CIA, and others.

Secret Service men who questioned him were "kind of country—you know, squares," FBI agents "twisted around what I said . . . because they think I'm a jerk and a bum and an alcoholic."

Martin also claims that "I haven't told them everything"—but that he has told Garrison.

After considerable verbal fencing, Martin was asked:

"Do you have any knowledge of any plot or any conspiracy to assassinate President Kennedy?"

He answered:

"No sir, only circumstantial." Lewis said he "may know several who were connected with the plot."

"A lot of strange stuff went on in that office," he said, referring to Banister's office, where he worked in 1961 and 1963. "But I didn't know anything about it."

Both men seemed to enjoy the attention they are receiving.

Lewis said he had just been interviewed by NBC television personnel, and said to be sure to watch him on Huntley-Brinkley.

Martin offered to work on a retainer basis for The Star and provide further "sensational" information.

They both must have been somewhat disappointed. Lewis was not on Huntley-Brinkley last night; The Star declined to retain Jack Martin.